

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Speaker laid before the House, and had read the following message from the Governor:

Austin, Texas, May 21, 1937.

To the Members of the Forty-fifth Legislature:

I have approved, signed and filed House Bill 397, which consists of two several items of appropriation for the establishment of hospitals for the care of the insane, in so far as Section 1 of said bill appropriates \$817,000.00 and authorizes the buildings, improvements and expenses incurred in securing the land for the site of a hospital to be located west of the 100th meridian; and I have disapproved and vetoed that portion of said bill contained in Sections 2 and 3 carrying an appropriation and authority for the buildings and improvements

and expenses incurred in securing the land for the site of a hospital to be located east of the 96th meridian, the second appropriation item in said bill.

In filing this bill with the Secretary of State, pursuant to the Constitution, I appended to same at the time of filing it a statement of the items to which I object; again, pursuant to the Constitution, I am herewith transmitting to the House of Representatives, in which the bill originated, a copy of such statement and the items I objected to. The statement and items objected to follow:

"My reasons for disapproving and vetoing this item of \$817,000.00 carrying with it the authority to build and establish a hospital for the insane to be located east of the 96th meridian, the second appropriation in said bill, are as follows:

"In my message to the Legislature dated January 25, 1937, I pointed out that the Board of Control had recommended the establishment of a new hospital for the insane in West Texas to cost approximately \$817,000.00. I adopted this recommendation of the Board, and myself recommended the establishment of this hospital. Up to that time no representative of either west or east Texas had conferred with me about it. I simply acted upon the recommendation of the Board of Control and their finding that this hospital was necessary and desirable.

"No Member of the Legislature, or representative of east Texas, discussed any proposed hospital in east Texas

until after an amendment to this effect had been adopted in the State Senate. When the matter went into free conference a number of the Members of the Legislature did discuss it with me. I was advised that the Legislature was unwilling to appropriate money for two hospitals at this time in view of the depleted condition of the treasury and the fact no tax revenues had been raised. An overwhelming majority felt we did need one hospital and that this should be established to serve a vast area in west Texas not being served at the present time and to relieve congestions in other institutions.

"I am, myself, of the opinion that we cannot afford to build two hospitals at this time. I think one hospital, with the additions which have been authorized at existing institutions, are sufficient to meet our present and early future needs. Many Members of the Legislature voted for the passage of this bill because it was commonly understood that I would not approve the building of two hospitals at this time."

For the reasons stated, I have approved the bill as to an appropriation carrying authority for a hospital west of the 100th meridian, and disapproved and vetoed the item and appropriation of \$817,000.00 carrying with it the authority for the establishment of a hospital east of the 96th meridian.

Respectfully,

JAMES V. ALLRED,  
Governor of Texas.